

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC General Information on Volkspolizei

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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PREPARED

17 November 1952

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REFERENCESPAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. In late August 1952, the barracks installation in Brandenburg-Hohenstrucken was occupied to capacity by about 2,000 Volkspolizei (VP). The 52 garages were completed. The two quartering buildings, 80 x 36 meters, which were still under construction, were to be completed in late December. They were each to contain dormitories for 50 men, rather than individual rooms. The VPs stationed there mainly received artillery training, with the artillery pieces still made available by the Soviets.¹
2. On 5 September, intensive firing and training activity of VP was observed at the firing ranges on Goerdener See (lake) near Brandenburg. Two Soviet 122-mm howitzers, 1 Soviet 57-mm AT gun, 1 Soviet 45-mm AT gun and 1 Soviet 160-mm mortar were noticed. The VPs practiced aiming and firing with subcaliber tubes.²
3. In the morning of 5 September, two trains were loaded in Dessau for the VP. One of the trains consisted of boxcars whose contents [redacted] unable to determine. The other train consisted of an undetermined number of flatcars with guns of various types and limbers.³
4. On 5 September, the quartering buildings of the former Flak Kaserne in Gotha were occupied by newly recruited VPs. The hospital and the administration offices on the upper floor were completely furnished but still unoccupied. [redacted] at that time six T-34 tanks were available and the personnel received training on these tanks in the garages. A number of police of the cadre personnel was to be detached to the Riesa area for training on new Soviet tanks in mid-September.⁴
5. In the late evening of 22 September, five T-34 tanks were detrained by VP in Halle and driven to the barracks installation of the VP.⁵
6. [redacted] 4 T-34/85 tanks and about 60 guns of various types were in the barracks installation of the VP on Schumann Strasse and Seelenbinder Strasse in Leipzig. One hundred trucks which were still unused but in operating condition allegedly were in a special garage. In early September, about 700 police were shipped from this installation to an unknown destination.⁶
7. [redacted] only a small number of VP was in Loebau. However, new recruits arrived during the following days. The bulk of the unit

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stationed there allegedly was in Mecklenburg.⁶

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8. [redacted] the buildings around the VP school in Naumburg, particularly those on Klara Zetkin Strasse and Westring, had been requisitioned.

9. During the period from 10 to 15 September, the former Wisniet hutment at the Niederschlag railroad station near Annaberg was being occupied by VP. Local residents said that 10 T-34 tanks and an undetermined number of long-barreled guns had been shipped to this installation.

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[redacted] Comment. [redacted]

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[redacted] the barracks installation in Brandenburg-Hohenstuecken was occupied by only 500 KVPs. This means that the occupation was reduced by 1,500 men since late August 1952. It is not known where these personnel were assigned.

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[redacted] Comment. Probably training of artillery units of the KVPD [redacted] in Brandenburg-Hohenstuecken.

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[redacted] Comment. Most probably the departure of the school for tactical officers

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[redacted] Comment. The Flak Kaserne in Gotha is occupied by elements of KVPD [redacted] The Zeithain troop training grounds is located near Riesa. Camp C of the troop training grounds quarters KVPD [redacted] It is possible that the cadre personnel of the KVPD in Gotha went to Zeithain for training. [redacted]

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[redacted] Comment. It is possible that these tanks belong to a shipment which, on 20 September, went from Prenzlau via Cottbus. [redacted]

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[redacted] Comment. [redacted] only about 400 police are assigned to KVPD 1536 in Loebau. The bulk of the personnel was transferred to the area of Armee Gruppe Nord and some to the VP Luft (air police) in Bautzen.

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